



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT  
OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

## New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

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Subchapter:	3	Rates of Payments for Purchase of Socials Services	
Issuance:	1200	<b>Psychological / Therapeutic Services</b>	

### Psychological/Therapeutic Services 8-9-2004

Psychological/therapeutic services are services provided through referral to a mental health professional (i.e., a duly credentialed psychiatrist, psychologist, therapist, counselor or social worker, see [CP&P-V-A-1-900](#)) in order to assess and/or treat a variety of problems related to behavior, living, intra and/or inter-personal development, and/or psychopathology.

CP&P also calls on mental health professionals to help settle matters before the court. Evaluations may be completed when the Division is bringing a matter before the court, when ordered by a court, or upon the request of the Deputy Attorney General in anticipation of a court action (see PRS Litigation Manual). Providers may also give "expert witness" testimony at court on behalf of the Division based on an evaluation and/or treatment rendered. See [CP&P-II-C-7-100](#).

### Psychological/Therapeutic Services Activities 5-10-2004

#### ACTIVITY I: Assessment and Evaluation:

Assessment and evaluation activities are intended to determine the nature of a person's or family's problems, the extent and kind of services needed, and to prescribe a course of service delivery or treatment.

#### ACTIVITY II: Evaluation for Court:

Evaluations for court are in-depth evaluations, undertaken to address one or more legal issues before a court (e.g., termination of parental rights, child custody, findings of abuse or neglect). The role of the evaluator is to provide the court with an objective recommendation. The Office of the Attorney General represents CP&P in the legal matter. DAG approval is required to obtain an evaluation for court. The DAG assigned to the case may request an evaluation in anticipation of - or to determine whether to pursue relief from - court. In addition to completing the evaluation for court, CP&P may call on the provider to testify at court as to the evaluation - observations,

recommendations, diagnosis, prognosis etc. (See Testimony at Court/Expert Witness, Activity V.)

Note: If a court orders an evaluation for treatment purposes (rather than for the purpose of determining a matter in litigation), then the standard "assessment and evaluation" rate would apply (Activity I) rather than the "evaluation for court" rate (Activity II).

#### ACTIVITY III: Counseling/Therapy

Counseling and therapy activities are treatment services for clients -- individual, in groups, or in family units.

#### ACTIVITY IV: Professional Consultation

Consultative efforts, on behalf of clients, are made with other service delivery components, such as schools, child welfare agencies and/or juvenile programs.

#### ACTIVITY V: Testimony at Court/Expert Witness

See [CP&P-II-C-7-100](#), Professional Witness Fees and Services.

### **CP&P Rates for Psychological/Therapeutic Services 1-1-2008**

CP&P rates paid for psychological/therapeutic services are broken down as follows:

THERAPY/COUNSELING (Activity III) -- maximum paid for hourly (50 minute) session:

- Psychiatrist -- \$107.05 per session.
- Psychologist -- \$89.25 per session.
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist -- \$57.80 per session.
- Licensed Professional Counselor -- \$57.80 per session.
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker -- \$57.80 per session.

GROUP SESSIONS -- maximum paid for one and one-half hour long sessions, with a maximum of eight persons in a group:

- Psychiatrist -- \$63.00 per person per group session.
- Psychologist -- \$51.50 per person per group session.
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist - \$38.85 per person per group session.
- Licensed Professional Counselor - \$38.85 per person per group session.

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker -- \$38.85 per person per group session.

Reimbursement for services rendered by mental health professionals/specialists in private practice who are certified or licensed by certification boards but who are not psychiatrists, psychologists, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors or clinical social workers (see [CP&P-V-A-1-900](#)) is at the following rates:

- For providers who do not hold doctoral level degrees, payment is at the going rate for that discipline, or at a rate not to exceed the rate CP&P pays for services provided by licensed clinical social workers, whichever is less.
- For providers who hold doctoral level degrees, payment is at the going rate for that discipline, or at a rate not to exceed the rate CP&P pays for services provided by psychologists, whichever is less.
- For mental health service providers who are Medical Doctors or Doctors of Osteopathy, payment is at the going rate for that discipline, or at a rate not to exceed the rate CP&P pays for services provided by licensed psychiatrists, whichever is less.

EVALUATIONS (Activity I) -- paid per person (e.g., child, parent, foster parent) per provider as follows:

- Psychiatrist - paid \$107.05 per hour (60 minutes), up to 4 hours, to a maximum of \$428.20.
- Psychologist - paid \$89.25 per hour (60 minutes), up to 6 hours, to a maximum of \$535.50.
- Marriage and Family Therapist, Professional Counselor, Licensed Clinical Social Worker -- CP&P will not reimburse; provider must hold applicable doctoral degree.

IN-DEPTH EVALUATIONS FOR COURT, TO DETERMINE A LEGAL ISSUE (Activity II) -- paid per evaluation (or for a set of evaluations conducted for one, specified purpose), paid per provider, as follows:

- Psychiatrist - paid \$122.45 per hour (60 minutes), up to 16 hours, to a maximum of \$1,959.20.
- Psychologist - paid \$106.05 per hour (60 minutes), up to 16 hours, to a maximum of \$1,696.80.
- Marriage and Family Therapist, Professional Counselor, Licensed Clinical Social Worker -- CP&P will not reimburse; provider must hold applicable doctoral degree.

Note: When a provider functions as part of a professional group, conducting an evaluation as a "team," CP&P will reimburse the group, as a single entity, the hourly rate for the service provided (i.e., \$89.25 paid to the group per hour for psychological evaluative services provided by their team, NOT \$89.25 paid per hour to each member of the group individually).

Reimbursable hours include charges for one-on-one interviewing/testing of clients, report writing, testimony preparation, travel time and travel-associated costs, supervised visits, record reviews, consultations with other professionals and family members, etc. Cases that require evaluations which cannot be obtained within the above limitations will require Assistant Director, Program/Adoption Operations approval. If the provider testifies at court based on the evaluation, he is entitled to compensation for his testimony at the Activity V rate as explained below.

The reimbursement guidelines for evaluations for court-related purposes, above, apply to evaluations associated with child protective services, termination of parental rights and guardianship litigation brought by CP&P, conducted on behalf of CP&P. The guidelines also apply when the court orders CP&P to pay for evaluations conducted on behalf of:

- a parent (represented by a defense attorney); and/or
- the interests of a child (represented by a Law Guardian).

The Deputy Attorney General is responsible for sharing expert witness reports obtained by CP&P with all parties to the litigation. See [CP&P-II-C-7-100](#).

Consult the DAG if staff question who should be responsible to pay the fee. The DAG requests that the court consider the parent's ability to pay, and whether there is private health insurance coverage for the child/parent/family, before pursuing reimbursement through CP&P.

TESTIMONY AT COURT/EXPERT WITNESS (Activity V) -- paid per hour of service provided. May include:

- up to one hour travel time;
- time used to prepare for testimony (consultation with CP&P or DAG, etc.); and
- giving live testimony at court.

See [CP&P-II-C-7-100](#).

**Psychological/Therapeutic Policy References      8-30-99**

For related policy, see

- Health Services Manual, [CP&P-V-A-1-900](#), "Mental Health Therapeutic/Evaluative Services."
- Foster Care Services, [CP&P-IV-B-6-300](#), "Psychological Care," [CP&P-IV-B-8-100](#)
- Residential Services, [CP&P-IV-E-1-100](#), "Mental Health Services.
- Protective Services Manual, [CP&P-II-C-7-100](#), "Professional Witness Fees."
- PRS Litigation Manual."
- Special Approval Request, CP&P Form [16-76](#) (form and instructions).

### **CP&P Rates for Private Duty Nursing 11-14-2011**

CP&P rates paid for private duty nursing include:

- Registered Nurse (RN), weekdays -- \$39.05 per hour.
- RN weekends, evenings and holidays --\$39.05 per hour.
- RN specialty, weekdays -- \$44.65 per hour.
- RN specialty, weekends, evenings and holidays -- \$44.65 per hour.
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), weekdays -- \$25.60 per hour.
- LPN weekends, evenings and holidays -- \$25.60 per hour.
- LPN specialty, weekdays -- \$31.20 per hour.
- LPN specialty, weekends, evenings and holidays -- \$31.20 per hour.

CP&P uses professional nursing services only when the level of a child's needs requires the services of an LPN or RN.

### **Registering Licensed Providers and Entering Appropriate Data to Facilitate Federal Reimbursement Claiming for Mental Health Under Title XIX 2-20-97**

CP&P claims federal financial participation when purchasing psychological and psychiatric services for clients who are Title XIX (Medicaid) recipients. To make a claim, the provider must be licensed to practice in New Jersey, or in the State in which he or she practices. Document the provider's status in NJSPIRIT.

See [CP&P-V-A-1-900](#), "Federal Financial Participation;" [CP&P-IX-F-2-200](#), "Financial Considerations;" CP&P Form [11-28](#), Psychiatrist Certification; and CP&P Form [11-29](#), Psychologist Certification.

Click here to view the CP&P Form [K-100](#), Client Service Invoice, used to pay "one-time" non-contracted providers for mental health services. Click here to see a [completed sample](#) form that may be used as a guide for payment for LO staff when paying the "one-time" provider. Workers may share this [completed sample](#) with "one-time" non-contracted vendors. Provide vendors with the carbonized forms located in the Local Office with pre-printed "Client Service Invoice Numbers," if the vendors are submitting the form with their charges to the Worker for payment.

If the provider is a "contracted" resource, he or she submits charges for mental health services on his or her monthly CP&P Form [K-100](#), Billing Spreadsheet, to the appropriate Local Office via the ["Secure Billing" process](#). Vendors are to submit bills on a monthly basis.